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EIGHT HOUR LAW APPLIES TO STATE EMPLOYEES

LIFE OF USEFULNESS BROUGHT TO CLOSE WHEN ASAHIEL BUSH DIES

Pioneer Resident of Salem, Who Did So Much to Uppbuild This State Is No More--Interested in Banking and Manufacturing Enterprises, Bank Being One of Strongest on Coast--Helped Nominate Cleveland and Was Staunch Democrat--Lightened Burdens of Many--Has Great List of Friends--Funeral Tomorrow.

It was a shock to the entire city this morning when it was learned that one of the most prominent pioneers had passed away during the night. While the weight of years was pressing heavily on the venerable Asahiel Bush, and the step once so quick was feeble and eyes once so keen were dimmed with the passing years, few, if any of us, realized the end was near. Up until about two weeks ago, Mr. Bush was at the bank daily, for a few moments at least, and the fact that he was in a serious condition was known to none except those of his immediate family. The announcement of his death, which occurred at 12:40 this morning, was entirely unexpected.

His Busy Life. Anything like a sketch even, of his life, would be a compendium of Salem's history, for his life was so interwoven with it that either would be a necessary part of the other.

He was born at Westfield, Mass., June 4, 1824, learned the printers' trade at Saratoga Springs, New York, and then took up the study of the law, being admitted to practice in his native state in 1850. The same year he, with far-seeing eyes, saw the vast possibilities of the northwest, and came to Oregon. In March, 1851, he issued the first number of the Oregon Statesman at Oregon City, moving the plant to Salem in 1853, and editing and managing it until 1861. In 1867 he engaged in the banking business here with the late W. S. Ladd, and in 1877 bought out the latter and became sole owner of the bank which his energy and ability built up to its present magnificent proportions, it being now recognized as one of the solid financial institutions in the northwest. The present bank building on the corner of State and Commercial, built in 1897, tells of his confidence in Salem, for it is still one of the finest buildings in the city. Its interior decorations put in a year or two ago making it one of the handsomest and most up-to-date buildings in the city.

It must not be understood that he confined his efforts to the banking business alone, for it was his work and foresight that started many other businesses here. One of these is the Salem Flouring Mills, with a complete roller process and a capacity of 400 barrels daily. He was also interested in the Salem Woolen Mills and the Salem Laundry. He helped organize the old O. S. N. company, whose boats plied the Columbia from Astoria to Wallula, and which was finally taken over and merged in the O. R. & N. railway, now a part of the transcontinental system from Portland. In fact, behind every move-

ment for the upbuilding of Salem could be found the energy and enterprise of Mr. Bush, as well as the financial support so necessary to success. As we have stated, his life history is so closely intermingled with that of the city and state that to write it is to repeat the history of the making of the Northwest.

Helped Nominate Cleveland. He was a consistent Democrat, and was a member of the convention that nominated Grover Cleveland for the third time in 1892.

He was the only man to hold the office of Territorial Printer for Oregon, he holding the office for eight years. For many years he was regent of the Oregon University, finally resigning. At the time of its incorporation, he was a trustee of the Willamette University, and his aid to that institution helped it over many difficult places. He was a member of the board of directors of the Lewis and Clark centennial exposition, held in Portland in 1905, and in fact has been intimately connected with all the larger things that went to the making of our great state.

His Children. In October, 1854, he married Eugenia Zieber, here in Salem, and to them were born four children: Estelle, now Mrs. Claude Thayer; Asahel N., Sally and Eugenia, all of whom survive him. His wife died in 1863. Such, in brief, is a resume of his life, but how poor and meager these few words to tell of so long and so arduous a life. It would require a volume of large proportions to tell even the outlines of his life's work. Kindly by nature, sympathetic and generous without ostentation, he has helped not only the budding industries of the state, but hundreds, who have felt the benefits of his friendship, who have been carried over dark places in their business, whose lives have been made easier and burdens lighter by the kindly aid of Asahiel Bush, will truly mourn his passing away.

Full of years, a long and upright life, filled with kindly deeds and generous acts, came to a fitting close when surrounded and cared for by those he loved and who loved him, he closed his eyes on earthly things in the silent watches of the night, to open them again on the other side in the flower-decked fields of Paradise.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 2 o'clock from the residence. The body will be placed in the new mausoleum, and the funeral services will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Elliot, the Unitarian minister formerly of this city.

The funeral will be private, and it is requested that no flowers be sent.

DECLARES HE STOLE TO KEEP FROM STARVING IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, Dec. 21.—Caught in the act of looting the Cosmopolitan saloon, Francis Condliffe, aged 26 years, a waiter, was arrested here early today by Patrolman M. J. Corridas. Condliffe also confessed, according to Corridas, to robbing the New Era saloon of \$5.65 an hour earlier. Condliffe told the police that he has been out of work for three weeks and that it was a case of steal or go hungry. "I have never been in trouble before," said Condliffe, "but when it comes to a case of either stealing or

starving, the average man won't go hungry."

THUGS BEAT MAN AND GET AWAY WITH PROVISIONS

Redlands, Cal., Dec. 23.—Posses are searching the government nursery in Santa Ana canyon, near here, today for two thugs who beat Fred Latschaw, an assistant horticulturist, and stole the nursery's provisions. With a fractured skull and other injuries, Latschaw dragged himself three miles to Seven Oaks, where he was given first aid before being brought to a hospital here. Doctors said he will recover.

BRITISH INTERESTS PLAN TO BUY HUERTA AND SEAT THEIR TOOL

Report Widely Circulated That Scheme to Retain Control Is Hatched.

THREE BANKS REOPEN

Decline to Take Advantage of President's Proclamation of Holiday Until January 1.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]

Mexico City, Dec. 23.—That British interests have hatched a scheme to buy General Huerta out and seat a Mexican provisional president of their own choice was widely rumored here today.

As the initial step—the story ran—Lord Cowdray, head of the British Pearson syndicate, will surrender to the Mexican government July 1 his 50-year right to one-third of the Tehuantepec railroad's earnings, receiving in return for it 12,000,000 pesos in Mexican bonds.

Of these bonds, it was said, 3,000,000 pesos would be converted into cash immediately and returned to the Mexican government.

Huerta, it was assumed, would pocket the money promptly and resign. In his place there would be substituted at once, the reports had it, whatever provisional president the Britons nominated, and the British government would ask other nations to recognize him until a regular election could be held.

President Wilson was understood to be cognizant of this plan, though what he thought of it no one professed to know.

Banks Again Open

The Bank of London and Mexico, the Banco Nacional and the Banco Central, which closed their doors yesterday as a result of prolonged runs on them, reopened today, declining to take advantage of President Huerta's proclamation, intended to give them time to recuperate, of a holiday from December 22 to January 1.

The Bank of London and Mexico made partial payment during the day to hundreds of depositors, who filled its lobby to the doors.

Officials of all three banks said they would have plenty of money if given time to make collections. Indeed, it was generally known that their assets were ample, and that it was only of actual cash they were short.

Huerta gave a reception to the diplomatic corps in honor of his saint's day, from which, however, American Charge d'Affaires O'Shaughnessy was absent.

Late News Bulletins

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 23.—Governor Ralston today made a Christmas present of a pardon to Mrs. Belle Shenkenberg, for fifteen years an inmate of the woman's prison here, following her conviction on a charge of poisoning her daughter-in-law. Mrs. Shenkenberg was a civil war nurse. She began her prison term Christmas eve, 1898, and will be freed Christmas eve, 1913.

Vera Cruz, Dec. 23.—The United States battleships Kansas and Connecticut arrived off Vera Cruz today and dropped anchor just outside the harbor. The ships passed Tampico on their voyage southward and reported all quiet there. The local branch of the Bank of London and Mexico remained closed today.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PIONEERS

Nyeena Kiosha Ilibase, the little volume of poems just issued by J. H. Cradlebaugh, is on sale at the Patton Book Store at the modest price of one dollar. It is largely on local subjects, and as such will perhaps be of interest to Salem people. It makes a nice little Christmas present to send east, and is pretty good boosting literature. It is small, but very prettily illustrated with Oregon scenes, and the author says was printed in book form more as a tribute to the old pioneers than for any other reason. "The Land Where Dreams Come True," and "The Old Camp Ground," were both written as an appreciation of the sturdy men and women of the earlier days, and if by chance the lines should please them or any of them, he will feel amply repaid for the feeble effort on his part.

P. L. Samuels, of Oregon City, was a state capital visitor this morning, returning to Oregon City on the afternoon Oregon Electric limited.

The Weather

Nothing like an old log fire. The Dickey Bird says: Oregon: Tonight, and Wednesday probably fair, south to west winds.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN ATTORNEY REVEALS HIS REMARKABLE ROMANCE

Young Woman Is Found to Have Occupied Suite Back of Office 15 Years.

WIFE RECEIVES SHOCK

In Room With Coroner When Miss Brance's Presence Is Discovered And Admits Illicit Love.

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]

Monticello, N. Y., Dec. 23.—"A woman gives; gives always and sacrifices all when she loves. And I am only a woman."

This was Miss Adelaide Brance's answer today to a story of illicit love, self-denial, romance and tragedy. The story developed with the sudden death yesterday of Melvin Couch, for business associate of Judge Alton B. Parker, in his law offices here.

The presence of Miss Brance in a secret suite of housekeeping rooms back of Couch's office was found as Mrs. Couch sat talking with the coroner and sheriff of Monticello. The widow faintly when Miss Brance tearfully admitted that she had occupied the suite for more than fifteen years.

Friends Surprised

Couch's most intimate friends said they never knew of the suite back of his office. Mrs. Couch declared, however that he had always kept the back door locked and that no one was permitted to go near it.

Miss Brance was held by the sheriff today on a technical charge of taking \$3 from Couch's pocket. She smiled grimly when told why she was held.

Couch's funeral was held this afternoon. It was private, the Rev. A. Waugh, a Presbyterian minister, officiating. Mrs. Couch and her pretty daughter, aged 22 years, were on the verge of nervous prostration.

Sheriff Keeps Her From Funeral

Miss Brance broke down completely when the sheriff refused to permit her to attend the funeral. She is a pretty woman, with slightly gray hair, a youthful face and a musical voice. She told the sheriff she was a student at the Oswego Normal school when her health failed. Then, she said, she started selling magazines, and met Couch when she was 23 years old. Miss Brance is now 39.

"I came from Cooperstown," she said. "I have a half-brother, named Charles, there. I will not tell his last

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SUPREME COURT DECISION MEANS FUND SHORTAGE

Deficiency Will Be Created in Maintenance Appropriation of Every State Institution--State Treasurer Believes It Will Be Impossible for State to Run Institutions in Compliance With Law--Decision Is Handed Down in Habeas Corpus Proceedings Against Steiner.

The supreme court today handed down an opinion holding that the eight-hour law, passed by the last legislature, applies to all state employees. The decision created consternation among officers of the various state institutions, as the effect of this interpretation of the law will be to place the employment of all help on an eight-hour basis, each employe being limited to 48 hours a week. As a result of the decision, state officials assert that there will be a deficiency in the maintenance appropriations of every institution. Some even go so far as to insist that a session of the legislature will be necessary to straighten out the tangle. Today's opinion was handed down in a habeas corpus proceeding brought

against State Superintendent Steiner, of the asylum for the insane, who was arrested on complaint of State Labor Commissioner Hoff for working an employe more than eight hours a day, in order to test the validity of the law.

According to State Treasurer Kay, it will be impossible to run that institution in compliance with the law, which will add greatly to the cost. It is necessary to have employes on the job seven days a week, and if employes work eight-hour shifts during the week, it will be necessary to have arrangements to handle the work on the seventh day. More employes will surely be needed, and the expenses greatly increased.

IDENTIFY MAN SEEN ON STREET AS MAN WHO ROBBED TRAIN

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]

San Francisco, Dec. 23.—Identified by two of his alleged victims as the bandit who robbed the Southern Pacific train at El Monte, near Los Angeles, December 1, when Traveling Passenger Agent Horace E. Montague was shot and killed, a man giving the name of John Bostick was arrested on the street here today.

Bostick was identified by Arthur Colen and Mrs. Colen, who were passengers on the train. They were walking among the shoppers on Market street, when Mrs. Colen saw Bostick.

"There goes the man who held up the train at El Monte," she said to her husband. "The couple trailed the man for 30 minutes before they encountered a policeman.

Scores of pawn tickets were found in Bostick's possession. Both Mr. and Mrs. Colen were positive in their identification of Bostick as the bandit.

YOUNG WOMAN DRUGGED AND STRIPPED AND LEFT TO DIE

[UNITED PRESS LEASED WIRE.]

Chicago, Dec. 23.—Drugged and stripped of her clothing, a pretty young woman, believed to be Mrs. Anna Dempsey, of Battle Creek, Mich., was found dying here today in an alley near the stockyards. The police believe she was carried in an automobile to the spot where she was found.

Once the woman attempted to speak, but lapsed into unconsciousness and then died. A slight scalp wound was found, but death was caused by exposure.

A physician declared Mrs. Dempsey had not been drinking. She was deserted in Battle Creek by her husband, the police said, and came here to make a home for their little daughter.

ATTENTION, CHERRIANS.

Cherrians must be at Commercial club at 7:45, sharp, Wednesday evening to proceed in a body to the Christmas tree exercises.

Delayed Trains From East Means Great Postoffice Rush Tonight

Thousands of Christmas packages, bundles and boxes of every shape, kind and color have been flooding the Salem postoffice during the past two weeks and today there is hardly room for the busy clerks and carriers to move about in the departments, so heavy has been the incoming and outgoing mails.

This congestion is not anything like what is expected tonight, when the eastern mail from trains delayed from 36 hours to two days in the Rocky mountains on account of snow storms, will arrive. Postmaster Hucklestein asks people to be patient, as it will take time to get the big mail straightened out and delivered. Many of the packages people have been asking for the past couple of days, are undoubtedly held back by the snow blockade.

According to John Farrar, who has been in the local postoffice for years, the present business being transacted by the office is the largest in history. The parcels post system is largely responsible for this, he states, and even the usual mail business has increased surprisingly. Presents From Afar. Amidst the great bulk of incoming parcels post packages are hundreds which have been sent from almost every part of the globe. Africa, India, Northern Canada, China and Japan postmarks can be seen upon many of the packages and postal cards representing about every nation under the sun are being handed through the general delivery window at present. About every conceivable article of merchandise known are contained in the daily parcels post bags now. There are presents included ranging from a pair of hose to a complete evening dress for women and for men the variety is equally as large and the quantity more bulky. The ever-pleasing dollie for Mary and that much-relished steam engine for Billy, etc., are in evidence at the post office, while hundreds of boots and shoes are being delivered throughout the city by the carriers. Carry Many Pounds. The rural carriers are having the time of their lives trying to find sufficient room in their hoggies and hacks for all of the packages handed out to them each morning by the local postal clerks. Many of the packages are light, but very bulky, and these take up considerable room. The city delivery is hampered even more than his rural brother, owing to the fact that he is compelled to make a human pack-horse out of himself and climb stairways and trudge many blocks before his day's work is done and the rural man simply drives up to the boxes and hands out the mail. Postmaster Hucklestein was on deck this morning in the postoffice with coat and hat off and there was every indication that he was a very lousy man. It helps not only postmaster, but clerks and carriers as well, to rush their work now, as Uncle Sam can't and will not wait, and the public seems to be just as determined to be served.

Preacher Ends Life by Hanging to Limb of Tree

Telling his wife that he had forewarned her that he was going to commit suicide, and that he was not fooling about the matter, J. R. Brannon, a preacher in Woodburn, was found dead early this morning within a few blocks of his home, hanging from the end of a piece of haling wire which he had first wrapped around his neck and then tied to a limb of a tree. Brannon has been going about the country for some time of late posing as a "Saint" minister. He returned last night from Oregon City, and, noticing no surprise in his wife's face, asked her if she did not get his letter, saying that he was going to kill himself. Mrs. Brannon declared that she had received no word from her husband, and

Brannon told her he was going to carry out his intentions. Mrs. Brannon, thinking he was not in earnest, paid no attention to the conversation, and went about her household duties. In the evening, however, the head of the house was not around, and the family instituted a search, thinking that he might possibly try to commit suicide. Walking a short distance from the home, Mrs. Brannon confirmed her fears today by finding her husband hanging dead from the noose he had made in the wire.

Coroner Clough was notified immediately, and, being informed of the details by the marshal of Woodburn, decided that it was suicide, and that an inquest was not necessary.